

Mr. UNC likes his place in the limelight

"Dressed to impress." No other words can be used to describe senior Jeff Taylor as he appeared on stage as contestant No. 7 in the Mr. UNC contest Oct. 15. Uncannily playing the role of a nerd, Taylor appeared to many as being true to the part. Never fear, though, for nothing could be further from the truth. Taylor, who attended East Mecklenburg High School in Charlotte, has always been a big man on campus. At East Mecklenburg, Taylor played baseball and led the school as student body president. "He's an all-around guy who is everyone's friend. He has always been a real funny character," Susan Heath, a junior from Charlotte, said. Senior Melissa Brandt from Charlotte agrees. "He is always cutting up."



DTH/Larry Childress

Jeff Taylor mugs for the camera at home in the Delta Upsilon house

Veronica Gontram Campus Personality

whereas his position as baseball coach to 13-, 14-, and 15-year-olds kept him feeling young.

His younger brother was on the team, but Taylor insisted he was fair. "He didn't play all the time. In fact, I was probably a little tougher on him because he was my brother."

Taylor also finds time for community service in Chapel Hill. The

YMCA's big buddy/little buddy program is, in Taylor's opinion, another great experience. "It's a really great program," he said. In addition, Taylor spends part of his hectic schedule offering his services to the Order of the Bell Tower.

"You'd have to be a real loser if you walked away from Carolina



feeling cheated like you had gotten nothing out of your four years here," Taylor says. "There are so many outlets to put your energy into."

Energy was a key factor in one of Taylor's prestigious positions at UNC. Serving as UNC's 1985 mikesman, Taylor used personal skill and wit to get the crowds going. He said, "I wanted to be a cheerleader rather than a comedian. My aim was to get the crowds loud. I'm happy with the job I did. I accomplished what I wanted to."

Back in the limelight one year later, Taylor's popularity is growing rapidly, his friends say. Insisting that he is not going to get a big head, Taylor explained, "Getting all the attention is fun — it opens up conversation with people I don't know and probably never would have been able to have met otherwise."

Reflecting on his senior year and his new role as Mr. UNC, Taylor said, "This title is an honor because of my views of UNC. Hopefully, I encompass the ideals of a UNC student — that is, getting an education and loving UNC for what it is, especially student life."

Elizabeth Turner, a junior from Conover, puts her trust in Taylor. She said, "Jeff is kind, sincere and concerned about others. He is also fun and a great dancer. He knows everyone!"

In looking ahead to May graduation, Taylor admitted, "I'm not ready to graduate yet, but I will be. You can't be in college all your life, and it will be good to move on. Life does get better if you believe it does."

Personals put students on road to romance

By CORIN ORTLAM
Staff Writer

They are silent soap operas; daring, witty, playful tidbits from thoughtful or conniving students; and symbols of everyone's wistful, romantic ideals.

Daily Tar Heel personals communicate everything from happy birthday wishes to revealing secrets to cleverly disguised inside jokes.

For those students who read the DTH, a glance (or serious scan) at the personals cannot be avoided. "I think everyone at least reads the funnies and the personals," said Mary McDonough, a sophomore.

Why are there so many new appeals and replies each day? "It all boils down to simple human curiosity," said sophomore John Heeden. Many also confess a secret desire to be that blonde in front of Phillips that picked up someone's pencil and heart at the same time.

"The DTH personals are the height of college entertainment," said Katie Moore, a freshman. "They get me through my 8 o'clock classes every morning." There is also considerable interest in seeing if a friend has gotten one (and just how provocative it might be).

Believe it or not, real live people do receive personals. Personals can make a person's day or make him a bit self-conscious, said Rob

Friedman, a junior. "Everyone saw the one to me before I did," he said. "It was kind of embarrassing, but it got me to take notice of the personals."

There are even those dedicated readers who try to witness the first meeting of couples that met through the personals. "I was dying to see the blonde in red with the apple meet her admirer from afar, but I was fifteen minutes late," Moore said.

To show the extent to which a journalist can dig, an actual flesh-and-blood mystery man was uncovered to attest to the success of a DTH personal.

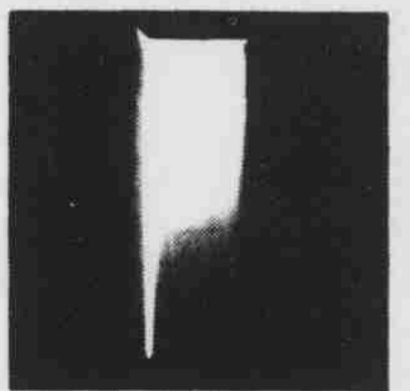
TJ (who wishes to remain anonymous) ran a personal which read, "If you think all guys are after one thing, call TJ and let me change your mind." Within a few days, he had received over 20 phone calls, three of which he followed up on. "They were kind of worried that only losers put stuff in," he said. None of his correspondents rode off into the sunset with TJ, but all became good friends, "which you can never have too many of," he said.

One rule to follow is not to expect too much, according to personal writers. By the way, if the guy in yellow boxers and jeans in line for State tickets who gave me three one-cent stamps, stuck his tickets into his sock and rode into the sunrise on his bike is not taken

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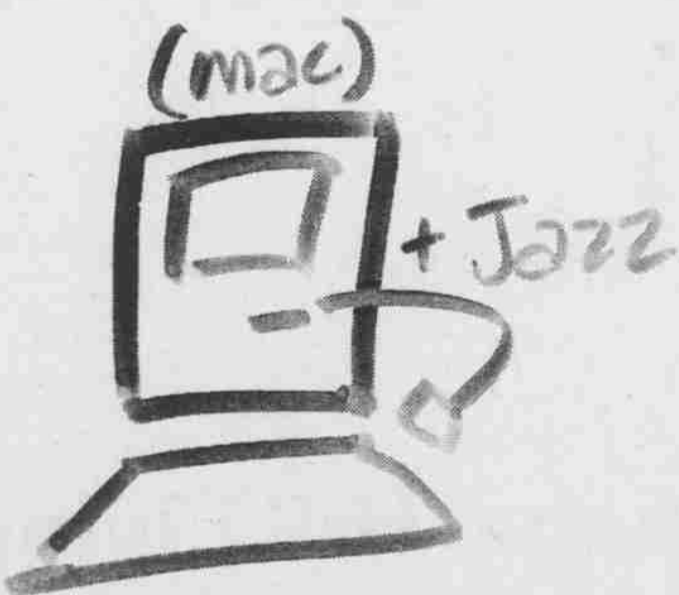


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